

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

D.T.E. 01-36

Jul 17, 2002

Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval of its Transition Charge Reconciliation filing for the period January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000.

D.T.E. 02-20

Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval of its Transition Charge Reconciliation filing for the period January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001.

On March 30, 2001, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 1A(a), 220 C.M.R. § 11.03(4) and the Restructuring Settlement Agreement approved by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") in Western Massachusetts Electric Company, D.T.E. 97-120-E (2000), Western Massachusetts Electric Company ("WMECo" or "Company") filed with the Department its 2001 reconciliation filing for the calendar year 2000. That matter was docketed as D.T.E. 01-36.

On November 28, 2001, WMECo filed with the Department a Rate Change Filing along with proposed changes to WMECo's tariffs ("Rate Change Filing") pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 1A(a), 220 C.M.R. § 11.03(4) and the Restructuring Settlement Agreement approved by the Department in D.T.E. 97-120. The proposed changes in rates, effective January 1, 2002, include the following: a transition charge rate of \$0.01357 per kilowatt hour ("KWH"); a transmission rate adjustment of \$0.00042 per KWH; and a standard offer service rate of \$0.04841 per KWH. Further, the Company proposed changes in charges for energy efficiency and renewables programs pursuant to G.L. c. 25, §§ 19 and 20. That matter was docketed as D.T.E. 01-101.

On December 27, 2001, the Department approved WMECo's tariffs to take effect on January 1, 2002, subject to further investigation and reconciliation. Western Massachusetts Electric Company, D.T.E. 01-101 (2001). On March 29, 2002, WMECo filed its reconciliation filing for the calendar year 2001. That matter was docketed as D.T.E. 02-20. On July 9, 2002, WMECo amended its filings in D.T.E. 01-36 and D.T.E. 02-20 to reflect the Department's directives in Western Massachusetts Electric Company, D.T.E. 00-33 (2002).

The Department intends to investigate D.T.E. 01-36 and D.T.E. 02-20 in a consolidated proceeding. In this proceeding, the Department will examine issues including, but not limited to, the consistency of the updated charges and tariffs with the methods and provisions approved in D.T.E. 97-120, and compliance with the Department's directives in D.T.E. 00-33.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company's filings. The hearing will take place on **Tuesday, August 13th, 2002**, at 10:00 a.m. at the Department's offices, One South Station - 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. A procedural conference will take place immediately following the public hearing. Any person who desires to comment may do so at the same place noted above or submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on Tuesday, August 6th, 2002.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene with the Department not later than the close of business on **Tuesday, August 6th, 2002**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

An original and five (5) copies of all written comments or petitions to intervene must be filed with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station - 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 not later than the close of business on the dates noted above. One copy of all written comments or petitions to intervene should also be sent to the WMECo's attorney, Stephen Klionsky, 101 Federal Street, 13th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

All written comments or petitions to intervene should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us; or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding [D.T.E. 01-36 / D.T.E. 02-20], (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix), in Microsoft Word, (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix) or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

The Company's filings may be inspected at the Department's offices during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Copies are also on file for public viewing at the offices of the Company, 174 Brush Hill Avenue, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01090, and at WMECo's Legal Department, 101 Federal Street, 13th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing should contact Pat Wood, 413.787.9293, at the Company's offices, or Stephen Klionsky, Esq., 617.748.5140, at WMECo's Legal Department. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Kevin Penders, Hearing Officer, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, at 617.305.3500.

ORDER OF NOTICE

Western Massachusetts Electric Company shall, no later than fourteen (14) days prior to Tuesday, August 13th, 2002, give notice of said hearing by publication hereof in the Boston Globe or the Boston Herald. The Company shall also serve a copy of the notice on the Chairmen, Board of Selectmen, Mayors, Town Clerks, and City Clerks of the cities and towns in the Company's service area, post a copy of the notice in each city or town hall in the Company's service area until the comment period has expired, provide actual notice to any person who has filed a request for notice with the Company, and provide a copy of this notice to all participants in D.T.E. 97-120, D.T.E. 00-33, and D.T.E. 01-101. The Company shall make return of service and publication at the time of the public hearing.

By Order of the Department,

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary